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Bangalore Mirror

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Transport department to set up AI-enabled cameras on highways, while accident-prone B'luru-Mysuru highway will get automatic number plate recognition cameras

AI FOR AN EYE

Commuters want NHAI to focus on basic facilities along highways too

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After the traffic police, it's now the turn of the transport department to keep an eye on violations. The department is gearing up to install Artificial Intelligence-enabled cameras on highways connecting the city.

Additional Commissioner (Enforcement) of the Transport Department Mallikarjun C said, "We are planning to deploy cameras to reduce accidents on highways. We will penalise the violators on the spot, and this will help in curbing accidents."

These cameras are to be installed near the toll booths near the airport, near Nagasandra toll booth on Nelamangala highway, Hosur Attibele Road, Tumakuru-Kyatasandra, and Hitnal toll booth near NH 73. These cameras will be installed by October.

An official added, "Measures are being taken for the installation. The AI cameras will be connected to digital display boards where the AI cameras will not only capture the speed of the vehicle but will also detect other violations like whether the driver and the passenger in the front seat are wearing seat belts or not and if the vehicle is following lane discipline.

The cameras will capture the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"As many are shifting to electric vehicles, there is a need to provide infrastructure for charging stations as well. One of the main demands is to provide proper lighting as most of the stretches are pitch dark and it can be really scary to travel at night on the highway —Sukrut Dev, regular traveler

RIDE ON

How's Namma Yatri faring? BM asks commuters, auto drivers

PAGE 5

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Musical era

The Symphony Orchestra of India is finally returning to Bengaluru. Mark your calendars, as the orchestra will take centre stage, offering a captivating evening of Western classical music tailored for adult audiences. An exclusive morning performance will be presented for children.
Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar
When: October 6 and 7; 7:30 pm, and October 8; 11 am for children 6-10 years and parents

02 Feel good

Urban Solace, in association with The Bangalore Support Group for Loneliness, aims to provide a special healing hour for those dealing with loneliness, sadness, and the absence of belongingness. Nimesh George, a licenced clinical psychologist with eight years of experience, will be moderating the event. Don't miss this during World Mental Health Awareness Month.
Where: Urban Solace, 32, Annaswamy Mudaliar Road; When: Saturday, October 7; 7 pm

03 Cartoon gallery

With the idea of creating awareness among citizens about tree plantations, Indian Cartoon Gallery is organising Treetoons. The exhibition features cartoons drawn by a popular cartoonist from Hyderabad, Chiluveru Mrityunjay.
Where: Indian Cartoon Gallery
When: October 7 to 21

Positive vibes only at these zones in school

City schools gear to set up 'happiness zones' on premises; number of activities, including yoga, mindfulness, and other relaxation activities to be part of Mental Health Week

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Schools may soon have 'Happiness Zones' on campus to promote positive vibes. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued a circular asking schools to take measures to improve health and wellness on campus.

An official said, "We are hearing a lot of cases among schoolchildren suffering from psychological issues. Hence, as part of the mental health week, we have been asking schools to take up a number of activities. These could be like installing a positivity board where students and teachers can share positive notices and mental health resources on the notice boards. The schools can also organise a host of activities like poster making, comics writing, slogan writing, and elocution sessions on mental health awareness-related topics."

There is a need to take up yoga,mindfulness, and other relaxation activities. It is better if the school organises outdoor activities like gardening, nature walks, sport activities, games, dance, music, etc. to make the activities joyful for the students. The students should be encouraged to share gratitude notes for friends, teachers, parents, or siblings. There is a need to create safe and psychologically comfortable spaces within schools' premises, such as 'let's talk', 'happiness zones', or 'wellness zones' for students to talk about their thoughts and emotions, explained the official.

According to the official, there is a need to create safe and psychologically comfortable spaces within schools' premises

Furthermore, Dr Joseph Emmanuel, Board Director (Academics), said, "The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 recognises that mental health is integral to the broader vision of education, which is reflected in the focus on socio-emotional aspects of development as an important prerequisite for optimal learning across stages of education. Prior to World Mental Health Day (October 10), a Mental Health Week will be observed from October 4 to 10. During this period, schools are encouraged to take part in activities to create awareness about mental health and well-being."

Sunday classes

Meanwhile, many schools are having special classes on Sundays. A notice was issued to schools by the respective Deputy Directors of Public Instruction that following two bandhs in a week, many schools have missed classes, especially as the schools are under pressure to finish the portions and gear up for exams ahead of the upcoming Dasara holidays.

Hence, due to the bandhs, the schools have been asked to take classes on either Sundays or convert half-day schools into full days. A section of schools in the city conducted full-day classes on Sundays.

An educationist said, "We had two bandhs last week alone, which was quite unusual. If we have so many bandhs, it will affect students. We want to extend our moral support, but we need to discuss whether we need to declare a holiday for schools, even though the fact is that the safety of students is of paramount concern. Our primary concern is that we currently have exams that need to be completed before the Dasara holidays. If there are too many leaves, it may impact academics. I urge the state government to consider schools as an essential category, and schools should operate as usual."

"We are hearing a lot of cases among children suffering from psychological issues. Hence, we ask schools to take up activities –an official

Celebrating excellence: Carrom & badminton champs

In a spectacular display of sportsmanship and talent, the National Carrom and Badminton Championships concluded successfully on Monday at Vishwa Vidyapeeth, Bengaluru. The 3-day event witnessed a gathering of around 1,200 of the finest athletes and enthusiasts from across the country and was conducted at their Yelahanka campus from September 30 to October 2.

The championship inauguration was graced by the presence of distinguished guests, including MLA SR Vishwanath of Yelahanka Constituency, whose unwavering support and inspiring words left an indelible mark. Trisha Hegde, the international badminton player, added to the event's prestige with her motivational presence. Observers from CISCE, P Bagli and Anil Israel T, provided invaluable support in ensuring the event's smooth execution. The tournament featured a multitude of talented athletes who played a role in enhancing its daily activities.

The 3-day event witnessed a gathering of around 1,200 of the finest athletes and enthusiasts from across the country

Suresh, retired Karnataka chief referee for badminton, brought his five decades of experience to the tournament, enriching it with his expertise.

Further, RM Shankara, the Carrom World Champion and winner of 160 gold medals, showcased his proficiency as a referee, adding to the tournament's quality. He was also the chief guest for the finale of the event. The National Carrom and Badminton Championships are a testament to the spirit of sportsmanship and excellence.

The event extended its heartfelt thanks to all the umpires, referees, and school managers who played crucial roles in making this event a grand success. Their dedication was truly appreciated.

— BMB

Go to the zoo, get vermicompost too

Bannerghatta Biological Park begins generating organic manure and selling it to farmers, visitors

DUNG-HO: Officials said that the vermicompost prepared from dung of herbivores in the zoo such as elephants or deer is of superior quality

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Bannerghatta Zoo has taken a step in the waste-to-wealth direction. To increase the revenue of the zoo and manage its waste sustainably, the park (BBP) has decided to generate organic manure from animal waste on a commercial basis.

"We have started packaging the vermicompost in 1 kg, 3 kg and 5 kg bags to be sold to farmers and visitors. Right now, it is on a pilot basis. However, we plan to explore and see if we can cater to higher demand. Although we have the raw material, the production of vermicompost takes time. Bigger infrastructure set-up will also be needed," said AV Surya Sen, deputy conservator of forests and executive director of BBP.

While the proposition is revenue and employment generation, the project is also expected to manage tonnes of waste that is generated on the campus daily. According to the officials, while vermicompost is available everywhere, BBP's manure is expected to be of superior quality.

"Vermicompost prepared from animal waste is not so easily available. When prepared from herbivores' dung such as that of elephants and deer, it is of superior quality than regular vermicompost. We also plan to add carnivorous animals' urine to the mixture to tighten its effectiveness.

So far, we have been throwing in tonnes of animal waste into a large pit, which anyway gets composted. We will now be using it with the right methodology to create the product," added Sen.

Currently, BBP has come up with a small vermicompost unit, which will be scaled up to make the product available on a larger scale. "The unit was created a month ago. While we have been using our in-house vermicompost in our garden space, we have started producing more off late and thus decided to sell it," said a BBP official.

> **"There is demand for the product. Visitors have seen us using the manure in our garden space and have enquired about it on multiple occasions. With more and more people moving away from fertilisers and using organic manure at-home gardens, etc.., there are more users of this product**

In demand

According to BBP authorities, more and more people have started using vermicompost instead of chemical fertiliser and zoo visitors have often enquired about the organic manure at BBP.

"There is demand for the product. Visitors have seen us using the manure in our garden space and have enquired about it on multiple occasions. With more and more people moving away from fertilisers and using organic manure at-home gardens, etc., there is a demand for the product," said Sen.

While the product is not priced yet, BBP authorities indicated that it will cost around Rs 35-40 per kg.

"A vermicompost bag in Lalbagh or in the open market costs around Rs 30 per kg. We are planning to price our product at around Rs 35-40. The stock is in process and we are waiting for the packaging material to arrive. We will pack it in recycled cotton bags," added Sen.

For crying out loud, what's with all the crackers?

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If you are unable to sleep because of the loud noise from Ganesha Chaturthi celebrations or you are walking on the road and are startled by crackers going off, you are not alone.

Citizens told BM that these days, they can hear loud music till late at night and this has disturbed their routines.

Amit, who has to regularly go to office early in the morning, lives in a PG in Ejipura. He says that the processions have disturbed his sleep for the past few days.

"As if a temple construction nearby was not ruining my sleep enough, now they have loud speakers playing songs to do it. If they play it till 10 pm, I would not have had any problem. But my PG room has big windows and one can hear loud music till 12 am. Earlier, people in the PG were okay with it for two days, but it's been almost a week and it's as loud as it gets," he said.

He added that while he was taking a stroll in Koramangala near Jyoti Nivas college, a bunch of people celebrating passed by.

"They placed crackers on the road and it created quite a racket. It was the weekend and the road was filled with people. Imagine if someone steps on the crackers. And it is also highly distressing to children and elderly," he added.

Another citizen Pramesh Jain said that many places in the North Division like Rajajinagar, Malleswaram and Prakashnagar, face the same situation.

"They were bursting crackers and even playing loud music till 12.30 am. It is a big nuisance as many senior citizens stay in residential areas and even cops were patrolling the procession. There is already a law in place that says that people can't play loud music after 10.30 pm, but despite that nobody cares. It's also affecting the pet animals in the area who get scared with the noise," said Jain.

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Safety in your hands: Mind the bumps here

Commuters, especially two-wheeler riders, complain of inconveniences being faced on Richmond Road; they demand BBMP inspect road on regular basis

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Richmond Road, one of the busiest roads in the Central Business District, craves attention. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) spent a lot of money on the upkeep of Richmond Road. However, it hogs the limelight for the wrong reasons. It remains a destination for potholes and waterlogging during the monsoon.

Though the road is asphalted and the maximum number of potholes are filled, motorists find it difficult to commute on this road whenever it rains heavily.

"It is very tough to commute on this road whenever it rains. Waterlogging has become routine on this road during the monsoon. It is not that BBMP has not engaged workers to remove silt from roadside drains. They did before the monsoon set in. I want the BBMP engineers to inspect the roads on a regular basis. It may not be difficult for them to inspect Richmond Road as it is just one kilometre away from the BBMP Head Office," said Ramesh S, a two-wheeler rider.

Many motorists are of the opinion that the BBMP engineers failed to keep a vigil on spots known for waterlogging on Richmond Road. They want the BBMP authorities to fill up potholes before they turn into craters. "The BBMP is allocating funds for asphalting and filling up potholes and craters, but the problem with the civic body is that it has no interest in ensuring quality in asphalting work. If the quality of asphalting is ensured, there is no scope for potholes on Richmond Road," said Anjanappa N, a two-wheeler rider.

Citizens said that the gratings put up to drain water during rain are damaged and need to be upgraded at the entrance of Hayes Road

Many added that the gratings, put up to drain water whenever it rains, are damaged and need to be upgraded. The grating put up at the entrance of Hayes Road has become a hurdle for motorists who want to reach Residency Road from Richmond Road. The motorists have to slow down their vehicles while taking the right turn from Richmond Road to Hayes Road due to the uneven grating.

> **"It is very tough to commute on this road whenever it rains. Waterlogging has become routine on this road during the monsoon** – Ramesh S

"I demand the BBMP authorities take measures to fill up potholes and craters at the entrance of Hayes Road," said Mohammed Hussain, a motorist. Many said that potholes and craters present on the road pose danger to unwary motorists, especially two-wheeler riders.

Meanwhile, BBMP executive engineer said that Hayes Road was developed by Bangalore Smart City Limited. "I will fix the problem," the executive engineer said.

Call for safer foot-over bridge

Commuters urge BMRCL to maintain bridge connecting to metro station near Baiyappanahalli

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Commuters who often use the foot-over bridge (FoB) near Baiyappanahalli have requested better maintenance of the bridge as it currently lacks functional lifts, discouraging the elderly and disabled. Along with this, they have urged the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to provide an extension to the overbridge that directly connects to the metro station, as passengers at present are required to get down the overbridge and walk to the metro station once again.

While the footfall at Baiyappanahalli Metro Station is expected to decrease once the KR Pura connection is made, many passengers are still likely to use the overbridge. A frequent commuter on the route said, "While the FoB is not adequately maintained, whoever is responsible ensures that the advertisements are frequently changed."

The municipal body Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is responsible for the FoB, which is a public-private partnership project. Citizens have often complained of PPP projects not receiving enough attention in terms of maintenance and have alleged that they are driven only by profit. Another resident, Basavaraj Hiremath, took to X and noted that foot-over bridges connecting to metro stations are lacking in other portions of the city too. "There is a need to construct a FOB at Peenya Metro Station. It is very difficult to cross the highway to get to the VRL bus stop, which is near KLE Dental College, during the night. Senior people might need an auto to get to the other side of the road," he said.

PIC COURTESY: BANGALORE METRO UPDATES
Citizens said that overbridges connecting to metro stations are lacking at many places

Sanjeev Dyamannavar, a transport expert, had previously pointed out that the South Western Railways (SWR) must also make plans to integrate the metro and railway station into their development scheme. "Currently, commuters are forced to navigate through bus roads to reach the metro station in Whitefield. Even at the Whitefield Metro station, there is no direct accessibility. Once the quadrupling takes place at Cantonment and Whitefield, the footfall at these stations will naturally increase. Such integrations among modes of transport will help commuters make a seamless switch and help increase their reliability on public transport," he said.

whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

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Bad behaviour
TC Palya

Auto drivers demanding fixed fares and waiting for additional passengers from Kithiganur to the TC Palya stop, often use inappropriate language and drive under the influence. They also lack proper vehicle documents.

No way to move
Yelahanka

Near Kogilu Cross in Yelahanka, the footpath has become a dumping ground for months, hindering pedestrian movement. There has been no response or action from BBMP or the local police.

Poor signs
Nandini Layout

BBMP's road signboard in BHEL Colony, Nandini Layout, has been poorly designed and approved, with stickers that easily peel off. This issue raises concerns about the quality of work and deserves attention.

New auto ride app in town is picking up pace

In 11 months, Namma Yatri has been able to cater to 1 crore-plus commuters; BM speaks to auto drivers and users to understand its pull

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The Namma Yatri app that was initiated by the Bengaluru's Auto Rickshaw Drivers Union (ARDU) and started last year in November, completes 11 months and so far, it has been able to cater to 1 crore-plus rides in the city. A lot of customers choosing for rides in Namma Yatri feel it is beneficial as the drivers accept rides in no time and even the fare is cheaper than other apps.

The app is built by the Justpay technologies with zero commission auto booking. The driver gets direct payment and it is said to be 100% open source. According to ARDU, the app has done very well in the past 11 months. It started operations in April 2022 as a beta version and after six months' trial, the app was officially launched in November 2022.

Statistics from ARDU reveal that so far, 20,47,000 customers have downloaded the app and close to 96,000 drivers have downloaded it. The auto drivers that are using the app daily so far, are 19,571, and the numbers even go to 22,000 at times. On a daily basis, there are 2 lakh requests but so far the drivers are catering to 94,000 rides on a daily basis.

Pattabhirama PL, Organiser Secretary, ARDU, said, "In the past 11 months, we have got more than 4 crore ride requests. We have been able to cater to 1 crore-plus rides. When we started the app, we would fulfill 20% of the requests that we were getting, but now it has gone up to 37% requests-ride fulfillment. We started off with a minimal number of drivers, but through word of mouth, many have joined in and we are able to cater to more rides. We do not charge the drivers any commission."

Nishreen Ahmed, a commuter, who has been using the app, told BM that it is beneficial as the rides are accepted in no time. "For instance, when I go to Commercial Street, the auto drivers standing there quote a minimum price of Rs 150-250 to just go for a 2-km distance to my house in Frazer Town. And when I try booking an auto from other apps, the rides are not accepted immediately. But when I started using the Namma Yatri app, the rides were accepted immediately. The fares also seemed to be better than the other aggregator apps," she said.

> **We started off with a minimal number of drivers, but through word of mouth, many have joined in now**
>
> – Pattabhirama PL, ARDU

Fare well

Pattabhirama pointed out that the ride fare in Namma Yatri is around 10-15% lesser than the other apps.

Another user, Sudeshna T, said, "I travel from HSR Layout to Koramangala daily and getting autos every day would be extremely difficult for me. I had to wait for a long time as many would charge an excess amount. However now with Namma Yatri, I get the rides instantly and I have also so far not experienced the issue of them cancelling the rides after asking for the location. "

While another passenger pointed out that the fares are quite the same as the other auto operating apps, but the availability is better in Namma yatri.

Drivers who BM spoke to said they are able to use the app easily without any glitches and they can take around 20 trips in a day, making close to Rs 1,500-plus in a day, with the money directly going to them.

Patrolling the streets: Are city nights safe?

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All the Deputy Commissioners of Police have been asked to go for night patrolling by the DGP, Karnataka, sources said.

However, when BM contacted several senior officials in the city, we were informed that there is no official notification on this yet.

"We were already doing night patrolling in our jurisdiction. And we haven't received any official order for mandatory night rounds. But apart from that, we have been asked way earlier to ensure regular and frequent patrolling at night, and it has been happening," said an officer.

Another officer from the traffic department added that the patrolling instructions have not been made mandatory and it's on the need basis only.

"We are coordinating with the police. We had a meeting on Monday. We will be effectively on rounds but no formal instruction as such has been given on that."

He added that as on Monday there was incoming traffic to the city, the traffic police have been busy planning for traffic management. He too said that patrolling has been going on regularly.

However, from the past few months, many netizens have taken to social media platforms and have demanded that night patrolling be increased.

"I don't see many police officers in the city at night, please increase the patrolling. If there are vacancies, please hire more staff, the city is growing and we need more officers to protect it. It is the same with traffic issues," said a netizen.

Another added that police vehicles around the world are fitted with accessories like sirens. "Police sound sirens occasionally at night to deter crime. Let criminals have fear of police," they said.

Say no to drugs, 36,000 students told

Police have been successful in creating awareness among more than 36,000 students in the city about the impact of drug abuse.

More than 258 police officers visited around 205 schools, colleges and vocational educational institutes in the city on September 30 and created awareness among the students about the personal, family and community harms caused by the consumption of drugs.

They also told the students that if there is any information about drug trafficking, then they should contact police officers immediately.

The students were made aware of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

IN BRIEF

Kidnappers in police custody

Four persons were detained by the city police for kidnapping a businessman in order to demand money from him. Ranjith, who runs a plywood store in Byatarayanapura neighbourhood, was kidnapped by Santhosh and four other individuals. Ranjith's friend Santhosh is the main accused in the case. According to the complaint, the victim was abducted after he applied for a loan of Rs 1 crore.

Santhosh and Ranjith have been acquaintances for the last three years. Ranjith received a loan of Rs 14 lakh from Santhosh to renovate his plywood store. Ranjith asserted that he would charge Santhosh 5% interest on the money he borrowed. Ranjith obtained a mortgage for Rs 1 crore and paid Santhosh Rs 23 lakh with interest.

According to the complaint, the victim is also alleged to have given Santhosh an extra Rs 20 lakh when he requested the cash. Santosh knew that Ranjith had taken this mortgage.

On September 23, Ranjith was kidnapped from Timber Yard Layout by Santosh and four of his pals. Ranjith was given a demand from Santosh for Rs 30 lakh and told that if he didn't pay it within a few days, he would be killed. Santhosh's extortion calls were recorded by Ranjith, who then reported it to the Byatarayanapura police station.

Man opens plane exit door, detained

According to authorities, a man named Swapnil Holey tried to open the emergency exit door in an IndiGo flight from Nagpur to Bengaluru on September 30. On the basis of accusation by the flight's staff members, he was later taken into custody.

The passenger was allegedly seated close to the aircraft's emergency evacuation door, according to the police. The individual allegedly tried to open the door as the crew members were instructing the passengers prior to flight take-off.

Holey was led to the police station by airline workers after the plane touched down at the Kempegowda

International Airport at 11.55 pm, a senior police officer said.

On October 1, he was supposed to board a plane for Bangkok, according to the police.

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Newspaper is for reading, not a healthy plate option

Experts recommend eco-friendly alternatives after FSSAI asks vendors to stop using newspapers to pack food

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The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) recently asked consumers and vendors to stop using newspapers to wrap or store their food as the printing ink contains chemicals. Indian snacks like samosas, bajjis, pakodas and bondas absorb excess oil. According to the FSSAI, newspaper ink wrapped in such a kind of food may contain chemicals like lead and heavy metals that can get into the food, leading to health risks. Several citizens and experts voiced the same concerns and have proposed a range of healthier and safer options.

Banana leaves are said to be a traditional and eco-friendly option for wrapping food. They are biodegradable, impart a unique flavour and are widely used in many Indian cuisines. For storage, stainless steel or glass containers with airtight lids are good choices that are durable and easy to clean and do not transfer harmful substances to the food. Beeswax wraps are also said to be reusable and a natural alternative to plastic wrap.

Raj from the Indian Ploggers Army said, "It is absolutely necessary for people to be informed about the risks associated with food served in newspapers or plastic. Beyond the health concerns, this practice also has adverse environmental impacts. There is an urgent need for vendors to be educated on this matter. Often, vendors are unaware of the risks, and significant awareness campaigns are required. Banana leaves, stainless steel plates, and porcelain plates are excellent alternatives. Banana leaves, in particular, are economical and can be easily composted. Reusable options like stainless steel or porcelain plates, commonly used in small darshinis, are both eco-friendly and sustainable."

Food wrapped in newspapers may lead to health risks

Odette Katrak from Beautiful Bharat said, "Even for items that do not directly touch the food, we recommend avoiding paper as a packaging material. Instead, we should shift to zero packaging, reusable packaging, or, as a last resort, packaging made from waste materials like sugarcane bagasse (although these options still generate waste). Paper is also a scarce commodity that comes from trees and is not recommended. When it comes to serving food, using newspapers should be strictly avoided due to harmful chemicals. The best alternatives are reusable plates, leaf plates, banana leaves, or simply no packaging at all. The best alternatives are reusable plates, leaf plates, banana leaves or just nothing! For example, if someone is eating just one samosa, they can simply hold it in their hand and eat it, without using a plate. Those who organise events must choose open items served on the plate, without the need for packaging each individual item, be it a samosa or sandwich. We often see sandwiches individually wrapped in plastic sleeves which needlessly add to waste."

> **"It is absolutely necessary for people to be informed about the risks associated with food served in newspapers or plastic**–Raj, Indian Ploggers Army

Despite some consumers storing food wrapped in newspaper, it is strongly advised against using newspapers even for storage purposes. Instead, traditional metal tiffin boxes can be a popular choice that are durable, stackable, and ideal for carrying various food items.

Uncalled-for advice irks RTI activists

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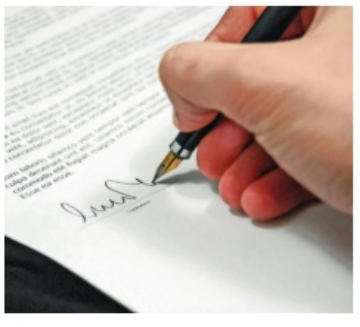
The primary duty of the District Information Commissioner is to receive complaints or appeals from the public against government officials who refuse to provide information under the Right To Information (RTI) Act 2005. The applicants appeal to the District Information Commissioner if they have not received information or are not satisfied with the information received from the authorities concerned.

However, Kalaburagi District Information Commissioner Ravindra Gurunath Dhakappa, who is operating from Bengaluru instead of Kalaburagi, has plenty of time to advise an RTI activist to join politics. A video clip of Dhakappa doing that is available with Bangalore Mirror. Dhakapa was heard asking Allappa, a resident of Goutham Road, Devadurga in Raichur, about his profession, and activities while hearing the latter's appeal through a video conference.



"The Information Commissioner, instead of verifying my appeal, asked me about my income. He also asked me whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi had asked me to file RTI applications when I told him that I had been filing RTI applications since 2014. The State Government must suspend Dhakappa," said Allappa, adding that he was asked to furnish Aadhaar and PAN numbers. Allappa said he had filed 395 applications seeking information on developmental works taken in Devadurga.

"I wrote a letter to the Under Secretary of the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms on July 21 complaining against the Information Commissioner of Kalaburagi Bench for cancelling my appeals. The Under Secretary wrote to the Secretary, of Karnataka Information Commission to provide me with information as per the norms. However, the Secretary wrote a letter advising me to file a writ petition in the High Court questioning Kalaburagi Bench Information Commissioner," said Allappa.

RTI activists are up in arms against Dhakappa for enquiring about the applicant's income and asking him to join politics.

> **District information commissioner of Kalaburagi is working from B'luru and giving 'unwanted career advice' to RTI activists**

"Dhakappa should go to Kalaburagi to dispose of various appeals. It will be a great help for the applicants if he, instead of operating from Bengaluru, operates from there," said Pramod H, an RTI activist. HM Venkatesh, a social activist from Judicial Layout, said the state government should suspend him immediately. "It is a shame that an Information Commissioner is found advising an RTI applicant to join politics and enquiring about his income. He is acting as a mediator between the applicants and government officials. The government will seize his property and bank accounts and order an inquiry to know about his disproportionate assets," said Venkatesh.

Mahithi Hakku Adhyayan Kendra Managing Trustee Veeresh BH said Dhakappa is one of the directors of two companies which is against the norms.

Satyagraha 2.0: Vegans of the city unite

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On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi, animal rights activists marched across various routes in Bengaluru to congregate at the Sapper War Memorial and conducted an event aimed at drawing attention to the unjust use of trillions of animals and promoting veganism.

Named Satyagraha 2.0, the event witnessed participation from more than 10 cities and was a peaceful, educative demonstration aimed at rekindling the principles of ahimsa. Participants fasted for up to 18 hours and conversed with dozens of passersby along the 15 km walk. This marked the third year of the campaign, conducted by the Bengaluru Brigade For Animal Liberation (BBAL) in collaboration with the Vegan India Movement (VIM).

Richa Tomas, a core team member, said, the use of dairy is so normalised that people don't question it. "We rarely give a moment's thought to where milk came from, who produced it, and whom it was meant for. These basic questions point out the fundamental issue with dairy- that a cow's milk is not ours to take. People forget that cows, just like us, are mothers who only produce milk for their offspring after having given birth. The egg industry is also incredibly exploitative. Hens are caged in terrible conditions and made to produce up to 300 eggs a year when in the wild they would have laid no more than 15 eggs," said Richa Thomas.

> **Participants fast for up to 18 hours and conversed with dozens of passersby along the 15-km walk**

Nitin, another lead organiser, shared insights from personal experiences visiting gaushalas and farms and conversing with people of all social classes. "There is a deeply ingrained misconception that cows and buffaloes produce milk all their lives and that what we consume is merely a surplus. Female animals are kept in a constant state of pregnancy just to keep the cycle going and later sold to slaughterhouses at just 6-8 years of age. Male calves are abandoned or sold shortly after birth," said Nitin.

Dilip, a participant, has said that all industries that trade in meat, be it hens, fish, goats, cows or pigs, kill these animals at a fraction of their natural lifespan. "Imagine their terror when they are next in line at the butcher's and have seen what is being done to their kind. We look at certain animals through a clouded lens. Some are considered companions, whereas others who are equally sentient are considered food. This is a form of prejudice called speciesism, and that is what we are trying to highlight through our efforts. A cow or sheep or rooster is capable of feeling the same pain or joy that a dog or cat can," said Dilip..

Nobel goes to 2 scientists who worked on mRNA shots

Discoveries led to creation of covid vaccine and will be put to more use

Penn Medicine's Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman, who won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Two scientists won the Nobel Prize in medicine on Monday for discoveries that enabled the creation of mRNA vaccines against covid-19 that were critical in slowing the pandemic — technology that's also being studied to fight cancer and other diseases.

Hungarian-American Katalin Karikó and American Drew Weissman were cited for contributing "to the unprecedented rate of vaccine development during one of the greatest threats to human health," according to the panel that awarded the prize in Stockholm. The panel said the pair's "groundbreaking findings ... fundamentally changed our understanding of how mRNA interacts with our immune system."

Traditionally, making vaccines required growing viruses or pieces of viruses and then purifying them before next steps. The messenger RNA approach starts with a snippet of genetic code carrying instructions for making proteins. Pick the right virus protein to target, and the body turns into a mini vaccine factory.

But in early experiments with animals, simply injecting lab-grown mRNA triggered a reaction that usually destroyed it. Karikó, a professor at Szeged University in Hungary and an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania, and Weissman, of the University of Pennsylvania, figured out a tiny modification to the building blocks of RNA that made it stealthy enough to slip past immune defenses.

Karikó, 68, is the 13th woman to win the Nobel Prize in medicine. She was a senior vice president at BioNTech, which partnered with Pfizer to make one of the covid-19 vaccines. Karikó and Weissman, 64, met by chance in the 1990s while photocopying research papers, Karikó told The Associated Press.

Dr. Paul Hunter, a professor of medicine at Britain's University of East Anglia, described the mRNA vaccines made by BioNTech-Pfizer and Moderna Inc. as a "game changer" in shutting down the coronavirus pandemic, crediting the shots with saving millions of lives. "We would likely only now be coming out of the depths of covid without the mRNA vaccines," Hunter said.

John Tregoning, of Imperial College London, called Karikó "one of the most inspirational scientists I have met." Her work together with Weissmann "shows the importance of basic, fundamental research in the path to solutions to the most pressing societal needs," he said in a statement.

The duo's pivotal mRNA research was combined with two other earlier scientific discoveries to create the covid-19 vaccines. Researchers in Canada had developed a fatty coating to help mRNA get inside cells to do its work. And studies with prior vaccines at the U.S. National Institutes of Health showed how to stabilize the coronavirus spike protein that the new mRNA shots needed to deliver.

> **"The work shows the importance of basic, fundamental research in the path to solutions to the most pressing societal needs**
> – John Tregoning, Imperial College London

Dr. Bharat Pankhania, an infectious diseases expert at Exeter University, predicted the technology used in the vaccines could be used to refine vaccines for other diseases like Ebola, malaria and dengue, and might also be used to create shots that immunize people against certain types of cancer or auto-immune diseases including lupus.

Peter Maybarduk, at the Washington advocacy group Public Citizen, welcomed the recognition of mRNA vaccines, but said the award should also be deeply embarrassing for Western countries.

"This is a technology that should have been available to all of humanity but it was almost exclusively available only in the richest countries in the world," he said, adding that much of the funding that led to the development of mRNA technology came from U.S. public funds.

Karikó said her husband was the first to pick up the early morning call, handing it to her to hear the news. She then watched the announcement to make sure she wasn't being pranked. "I was very much surprised. But I am very happy." Karikó said she was the one to break the news to Weissman, since she got in touch before the Nobel committee could reach him. **– AP**

Eid violence: Over 40 held, CM warns of action

'Will not tolerate stone-pelting, peace in Shivamogga now'

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Monday that more than 40 persons were arrested in connection with the stone pelting incident reported from Shivamogga city. He underlined that his government won't tolerate incidents of stone pelting, stating that Shivamogga city is peaceful. Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, Siddaramaiah stated, "More than 40 miscreants who were responsible for the violence and who pelted stones have been arrested. We are slapping cases on them because pelting stones while taking out a religious procession is against the law."

"Our government will not tolerate these activities and they will be reined in," he stated. "Shivamogga City is completely normal now. The police are taking all possible actions there. The peace has been established in the city after the stone pelting incident. "We will take up all possible measures to maintain peace in Shivamogga," he stated.

"In Shivamogga when the Eid Milad procession was taken up, miscreants had pelted stones in the Ragi Gudda area located on the outskirts of the Shivamogga city. The stones were pelted at police as well and the police had resorted to lathi charge inevitably, he added. Karnataka Police extended curfew to the entire city of Shivamogga on Monday after tension escalated. The IPC 144 prohibitory orders were clamped in the Ragi Gudda area of the city on Sunday following violence during the Eid Milad procession. The situation continues to be tense all across the city. The security arrangement had been tightened at sensitive points. The shops were asked to close down.

At least 12 platoons of District Armed Reserve (DAR), two platoons of Rapid Action Force (RAF), two platoons of Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP) and 2,500 policemen have been deputed across the city to thwart any untoward incident.

– IANS

Asian games: Indian athlete makes trans claim about compatriot

India's Swapna Barman on Monday sparked a controversy with sensational allegations that she lost out on a bronze medal in the women's heptathlon competition of the ongoing Asian Games to a "transgender" athlete. Swapna, who had won the gold medal in the 2018 edition of the Asian Games in Jakarta, alleged that compatriot Nandini Agasara was ineligible to compete in the women's event as she is a "transgender" but later deleted her post from social media.

Nandini won the bronze medal in women's heptathlon in Hangzhou, while Swapna failed to defend her crown, settling for the fourth position on Sunday. "I have lost my Asian Games bronze medal to a transgender woman at the 19th Asian Games held in Hangzhou, China. I want my medal back as it is against the rules of athletics. Help me and support me please," Barman tweeted.

A few hours later, she deleted the tweet even as the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) refused to comment. Nandini aggregated a total of 5712 points, a personal best. She topped the final event of the heptathlon, the 800m race, to ensure a spot on the podium, ahead of Barman. Besides the 800m event, Nandini also won the 200m race, that earned her 936 points.

Swapna Barman and Nandini Agasara

As per the rules of World Athletics, which came into effect from March 31 this year, every single athlete who has gone through what has been defined as 'male puberty' by World Athletics is barred from competing in female world ranking events.

Swapna, who managed 5708 points, was the defending champions in the event having won a gold at the Jakarta Games five years ago.

China's Ninali Zheng won the gold medal in women's heptathlon event after collecting a total of 6149 points. Ekaterina Voronina of Uzbekistan took the silver with 6056 points. The toast of the nation in the last edition, Swapna's one last shot at glory at the Games turned into a nightmare as she struggled with injuries to virtually go out of medal reckoning after the javelin throw event.

The defending champion, who boasts of a personal best of 52.55m in javelin throw, managed a throw of just 45.13 in the penultimate event of the gruelling competition. Javelin throw was one of the two events Swapna had won in 2018 en route to becoming the first Indian heptathlete to win an Asian Games gold. **– PTI**

Crocodile crushed by train

An incident of a crocodile dying after coming under the train was reported from the Gadag district of Karnataka on Monday, authorities said.

The incident had taken place in Hale Aluru village. According to authorities, the crocodile had come out of the Malaprabha river and came under the train while crossing the tracks.

The eight-foot-long crocodile has been cut into two pieces. The locals who noticed it had taken away the body of the crocodile from the tracks and informed the authorities. The forest department authorities have taken the case for investigation and sources said that they will dispose of the body of the dead crocodile. **– IANS**

Protest for right to protest clamped down

Activists demanding govt allow protests outside boundaries of Freedom Park detained

Activists of the city, who were demanding that protests be allowed outside of the boundaries of Freedom Park, near Maurya Circle were detained by the police on Monday. Clifton D'Rozario from All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU), Maitreyi K from All India Lawyers Association for Justice (AILAJ), and Mavalli Shankar from Dalit Sangharsha Samiti (DSS) among others were detained. The activists from various movements had gathered under the banner of Horatada Hakkigaagi Janandolana and were planning to march from Maurya Circle to Vidhana Soudha.

Currently, since the previous regime passed the Licensing and Regulation of Protests, Demonstrations and Protest Marches (Bengaluru City) Order, 2021 in January 2022, it is illegal to protest anywhere but in the premises of Freedom Park. The order was enacted as a suo moto Karnataka High Court public interest litigation (PIL) launched in March 2021 sought "unobstructed vehicular traffic".

"The Right to Protest is a fundamental right that is protected under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. The Bengaluru City Police under the previous government passed an order in effect restricting protests to Freedom Park. After the government changed, we met the new Police Commissioner and the Chief Minister and demanded that this order restricting protests to Freedom Park be withdrawn, that the FIRs filed against protestors be withdrawn. However, our demands have not been met. We have therefore decided to give the government some more time to meet the demand, failing which we will be forced to hit the streets," the group had said on September 20.

The protest started at around 11 am. Even before the protest started, the police arrived at the location and they were silently watching for around two hours. Around 1 pm, a senior officer spoke with one of the protesters. After an attempt to negotiate for around 15 minutes, the police started using force to detain the main protesters and put them in a BMTC bus, claimed a source.

The protestors were released later in the evening. **– Rachana Ramesh**

'No ban on carpooling'

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy has clarified that there is no ban on carpooling in the city. The clarification has come after many speculations over a ban on carpooling began to circulate across social media sites. The minister has said that no official order or notification has been issued and he would be conducting a meeting with carpooling aggregators on October 3. He has reiterated that carpooling by family, friends and employees is completely legal and the question of permission can be raised only when carpooling is done for commercial purposes. "We have not banned (carpooling), this is false news. First, let them take permission. They have not taken permission, where is the question of banning?," he said.

The speculation arose after the transport department decided to crack down on carpooling applications like Quick Ride among others as it is illegal to use private vehicles (those with whiteboards) for commercial purposes. The move came after consistent demand from taxi drivers' unions to curb the practice. Taxi drivers say that the carpooling applications being allowed to operate with the use of private vehicles is unfair as taxi drivers must register their vehicles, and obtain required permits in order to function legally while also paying stipulated taxes. **BMB**

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I,TANVEER Attar S/o Ismail Shahabuddin Attar aged about 34 years R/At C5, Classic Ashirwad Apartment, Ashirwad Colony, 9th Cross, Horamavu, B'luru-560043 have changed my name to Tanveer Ismail Attar vide affidavit dtd:30/09/2023 sworn before notary Uday Kumar K, B'luru

I, Nandita Ray W/o Prashanth Kalluraya aged about 36 years R/at Apt-31212, Nikoo Homes-1, Tower-3, Bhartiya City, Thanisandra Main Road, B'luru-560064 have changed my name to Nandita Ray Kalluraya vide affidavit dtd:30/09/2023 sworn before notary Uday Kumar K, B'luru

I, S.S. Chandrasekhar alias S.S. Chandrashekhar S/o S.R. Sringeshwara Rao R/o No A 22, 3rd Floor Sri Lakshmi Paradise Apartments 911 Ideal Homes Township Kenchenahalli, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bangalore, have changed my name to S.S. Chandrashekar

I Chandrasekhar Venkataswamy S/o H Venkata Swamy Reddy R/o #152/2, 2nd Flr ,NCR Residence , Canara Bank B'luru-560037 have changed my name to V Chandra Shekar for all purposes.

I, Afreen Kauser, W/o. Shabeer I, R/o: Masjid Mohallah, Santhe, Kodihalli Po & Hobli, Kanakapura Tq, Ramanagar - 562119, have changed my name to AFREEN KOUSER for all purposes.

I, Mohammed Faiz Khan A S/o Aslam Khan R/o 102/1 , 17th Cross ,B S A Rd,Sagayapuram, B'lore -560045 have changed my name to Mohammedfaiz Khan for all purposes.

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Cameras to curb thefts too on B'luru-Mysuru highway

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the vehicle registration number as well. Each camera can spot the vehicle at a distance of 200 metres."

ANPR on Bengaluru-Mysuru highway

With many accidents reported on the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to install Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Cameras here. Officials hope that these cameras will not only help in spotting reckless driving but also prevent theft on the highways.

NHAI project director BT Sridhar said, "We had earlier sent a proposal to the Centre for installing ANPR along the stretch. We have already got the approval and we will soon call for tenders. As per the proposal, we want to install one camera for every 500-metre stretch. One of the main reasons for the camera installation is to spot speeding.

Currently, we have received complaints that a few vehicles zoom at 160 kmph even though the speed limit is fixed for 100 kmph. So, these cameras will capture the vehicle number and we plan to issue challans to such drivers."

Sources said that accidents have increased ever since the expressway became operational. As per the data, there have been more than 335 accidents with 85 people losing lives.

As Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway is modelled on the Mumbai-Pune expressway, officials hope that the cameras will bring discipline. According to a Times of India report, fatalities on Mumbai-Pune expressway and highways have decreased by 55% and fatal crashes have reduced by 33% in January and February since the police have taken up drive to book traffic offenders. In the last three months, police have booked 22,000 violators including 5,000 for speeding more than 100 kmph.

Theft control

Interestingly, NHAI hopes that the cameras will not only cut down the over speed but also can stop thefts.

Sridhar said, "We have been witnessing a lot of incidents where thieves are having a field day. There are reports of fences, crash barriers and lights being stolen.

So, we hope to keep an eye on these thieves. Besides, the cameras will be helpful in providing emergency support in case of accidents. We want to introduce a system wherein the AI-enabled cameras can capture any accident, and then messages can be instantly sent to NHAI, local police, hospital and ambulance service."

Sukrut Dev, a regular traveler on the stretch, said, "It is a good move by the NHAI but the authority must also focus on providing basic amenities. There is no petrol bunk in the expressway. So, what would happen if someone runs short of fuel? There are no toilets either. Earlier, there has been an instance where a person was robbed when he went to answer nature's call.

We also need hotels for refreshments. As many are shifting to electric vehicles, there is a need to provide infrastructure for charging stations as well. One of the main demands is to provide proper lighting as most of the stretches are pitch dark and it can be really scary to travel at night."

HEALTH TIP: Green tea contains catechins, an antioxidant with a reputation for enhancing metabolism

Ginger lemon drink is excellent for gastrointestinal tract issues and aids in the prevention of bloating and cramps

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WE GOT THE BEAT

How we perceive rhythm involves neurological processes that control movement

When you hear a song playing somewhere, you might find yourself tapping your fingers or moving your head to the rhythm.

If you're walking, your footsteps may fall in line with the beat. Whether or not you're a musician, somehow you know intuitively when to speed up or slow down to stay in time.

A wide range of living and non-living systems show synchronisation, the tendency to coordinate rhythmic activity across interconnected groups.

Pendulum clocks hanging on the same wall eventually sync up, and large groups of fireflies may start to flash as one.

But nothing else in the natural world spontaneously synchronises with rhythms across such a wide range of tempos and with such precision as humans listening to music.

Joining the flow of a rhythmic piece of music is something we think of as almost automatic. But as pleasant and natural as it may be, it's not at all clear how we do it.

As a musician, I spend many happy hours synchronising to rhythms. And as a scientist, I am fascinated by the processes in the mind and brain that allow us to interact so expertly and spontaneously with rhythm.

Rhythm and the brain

Our sense of rhythm would seem to begin within the confines of the mind. As we listen to rhythmic music, we intuitively know when the next note is likely to occur.

We are surprised when our rhythmic expectations are thwarted, as when a prominent downbeat is played slightly early or is intentionally left silent.

But it appears that even our ability to mentally follow and anticipate musical rhythms is tied up with the brain processes we use to move our bodies.

Using functional MRI, music neuroscientists have established that actively listening to rhythm activates the supplementary motor area of the cerebral cortex and the basal ganglia in the deep brain, both of which are important for generating voluntary movements.

How is mentally following a rhythm similar to moving our bodies? In my research, I am exploring one possible link: As we move our bodies in space, we are continuously monitoring the state and progress of our actions using the sensory feedback they produce.

This process of monitoring resembles a Kalman filter, an algorithm used to track the movement of objects based on limited and noisy measurements.

I recently showed that the process of following the cycle of a periodic beat underlying a complex rhythm can also be approximated surprisingly well by a version of the Kalman filter.

Anticipating and processing events in a rhythm may draw on the same brain mechanisms as anticipating and processing the sensory consequences of our own movements.

From an evolutionary perspective, I suspect that our sense of rhythm developed (at least in part) as an outgrowth of monitoring and anticipating our own footsteps as we walk or run.

Causes of motor disorders

Drawing links between motor control and rhythm perception may help us make sense of the underlying causes of neurological disorders that both affect rhythm perception and benefit from rhythm-focused therapies, including Parkinson's, Huntington's, and stuttering.

Developmental stuttering (a stutter during speech that arises in early childhood) is associated with impairment in rhythm perception and weaker ability to tap in time with a metronome.

Conversely, stuttering can be partially alleviated by speaking along with a metronome.

Further, stutterers often experience substantially improved speech when their speech is played back to them with a slight delay or a pitch shift.

Understanding the link between processing motor feedback — like the sound of one's own speech — and perceiving an underlying beat could help us better understand stuttering by unifying the primary speech impairments with the secondary effects relating to rhythm and feedback as parts of a larger picture.

Rhythm and boundaries

The study of rhythm is one gateway to bigger questions about our relationship with the world around us. I believe that how we sense rhythm blurs the boundaries between our internal and external worlds.

We simply don't have the cognitive resources to take all the information coming in our ears and rapidly separate it into multiple rhythmic streams.

As a result, the rhythms we hear become entangled with the rhythms we make with our bodies. As we play music in a group, we literally lose ourselves in the rhythm: we no longer predict the timing of our own sounds separately from the mix, but instead predict the timing of all sounds based on the group's rhythm as a whole.

Prediction and action

So when we play music with others or slip into step with a friend on a walk, how does the rhythm we hear come to commandeer the timing of our actions? I suspect that the last ingredient is the tight relationship between prediction and action.

According to one exciting theory of the neural control of action, we move our bodies not by sending "commands" to them, but instead by predicting what we will experience when we move them.

For example, when I fully expect to experience the sound and feeling of a handclap, my body aligns with my expectations and I clap my hands.

This is one way to understand some people's tendencies to finish others' sentences: once they have a clear prediction of what they are going to hear, it is difficult to avoid producing those sounds themselves.

A shared rhythmic experience is a fluid interplay between sound, external expectations, self-expectation and action.

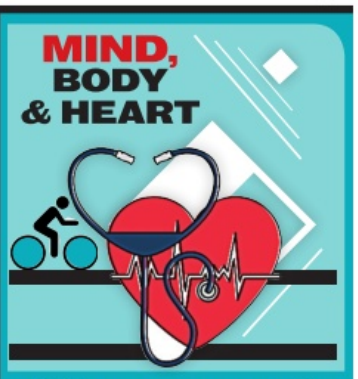
As I come to understand the rhythm I'm hearing and predict its sounds, I start to predict the timing of my own actions with the same clock. And when I do that, my actions can't help but align themselves with my predictions.

In this way, listening to and playing rhythmic music is a way to feel and act as a part of something larger than ourselves.

We no longer experience ourselves as fully separate sources of sound and action — instead, we move and experience our movement as if music and movement all come from the same source, a source that includes us not as individuals but as parts of a larger system.

In a culture that often treats us as fundamentally separate and compartmentalised individuals, music helps us experience our minds, our bodies, other people, and our environments as an integrated whole.

(By Jonathan Joseph Cannon, McMaster University, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Social media misinfo

Overwhelmed? Share it
People who say they are tired or overwhelmed by social media are more likely to believe in misinformation and share them online, finds a study.

Narcissistic trait
Using covid-19 fake news as an example of misinformation, the study also found that narcissistic individuals experiencing social media fatigue are more likely to share misinformation.
The study, published in the journal Scientific Reports, is based on over 8,000 survey responses from participants in Singapore, the United States, Malaysia, China, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Hampered judgement
"Social media fatigue creates an information overload that hampers the cognitive judgement of social media users. In such circumstances, individuals become overwhelmed and struggle to critically evaluate the misinformation they encounter, whether it pertains to Covid-19 or other topics," said lead author Saifuddin Ahmed, Assistant Professor at NTU's Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information.

Partial algorithm
"Another explanation for this effect of social media fatigue is how social media algorithms function -- prioritising controversial, sensational, and emotionally charged content. Being exposed to such content may cause individuals to perceive it as accurate.

Looking for sensation
"With high levels of fatigue, these individuals could be sharing misinformation as they may be trying to seek attention and gain social influence without applying critical thinking. This tendency to share misinformation is particularly relevant for misinformation that is often characterised by sensational content, " Ahmed said. —IANS

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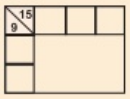
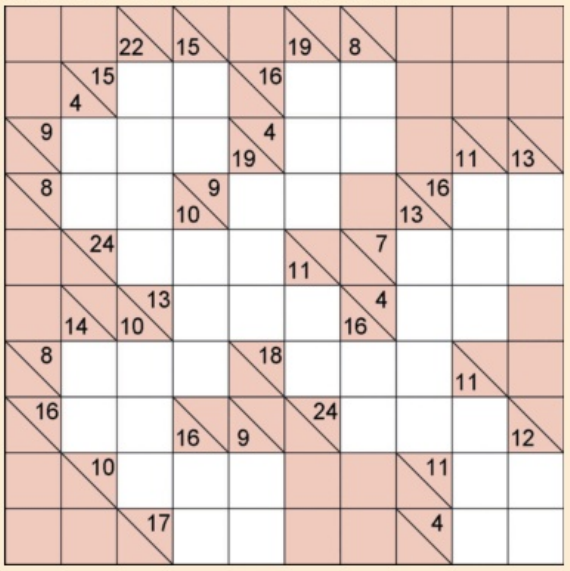
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

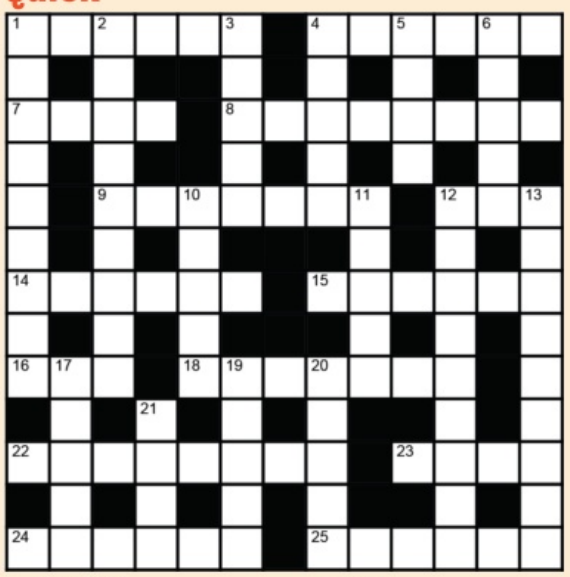


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Appalled (6)
4 Most peculiar or rummy (6)
7 A in A.D. ? (4)
8 Likely loser (8)
9 Pulling or tugging sharply (7)
12 French season (3)
14 Pillaged (6)
15 Voices in complete agreement (6)
16 Centre (3)
18 Barking sharply (7)
22 Opera texts (8)
23 New Zealand bird (4)
24 Delay or hamper (6)
25 Mix around socially (6)

DOWN

1 Iranian religious leader (9)
2 Hexagonal wax structure (9)
3 Torso (5)
4 Bygone (5)
5 Filth (4)
6 Beastly nose (5)
10 Impoverished (5)
11 Very clever people (5)
12 Casual (4-5)
13 Australian novelist ___ Hill (9)
17 Karnataka town whose name is associated with South Indian food (5)
19 Communion table (5)
20 Form of optical glass (5)
21 Hot and dry (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS G

GXWXYQ KGEYA JKUAM XN CKTZAT NE SXYZ MEJAEYA NE DGKJA.

Linemaro

You are #1 in my book

Mindchow

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant

Joke of the day

Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says "If an emergency, notify:" I put "Doctor". What's my mother going to do?

Loop

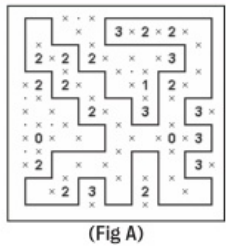
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

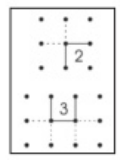
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

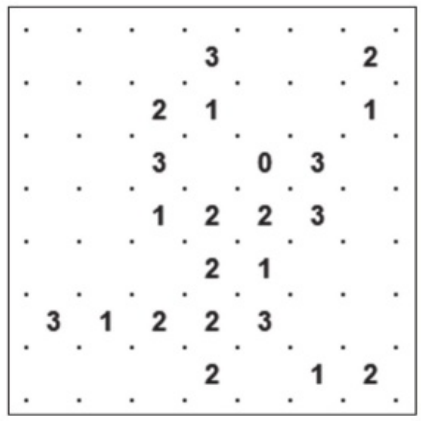
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



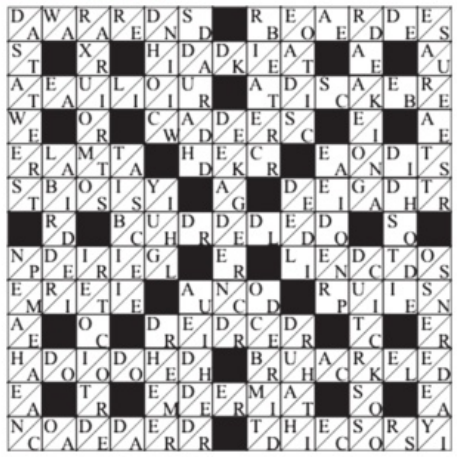
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



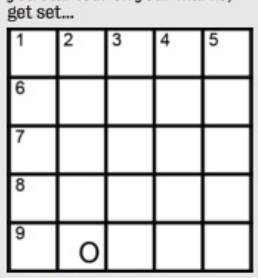
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 A prop; 6 Enter; 7 Spurt; 8 In die; 9 On Cut

DOWN

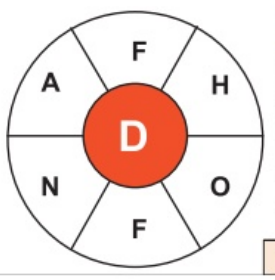
1 Tacit; 2 Or pun; 3 Duper; 4 Ripen; 5 Stone

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?

			14	
	22			
			34	
41				
		53		?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

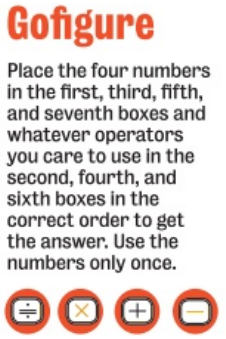
SudokuChallenge

		7	3	9				4
5					7		6	
3	9				5			
1			8			7		3
			1		6			
9		2			3			1
			5				4	2
	5		2					8
2				7	4	5		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

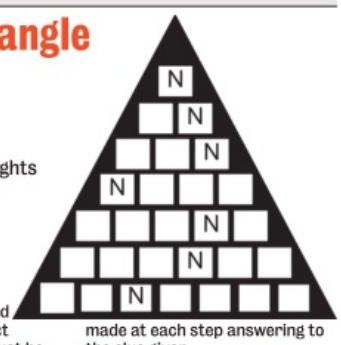
Differences: 1. Gun is missing. 2. Bandana is smaller. 3. Coat is shorter. 4. Fence post is not showing. 5. Boy's arm is not showing. 6. Man's arm is showing.

Riddler

Which is the odd one out: Angola, Brazil, Honduras, Cape Verde?

Alpha triangle

1 One of the poles
2 Not off
3 Eternity
4 Music symbol
5 Small rock
6 Metric heavy weights
7 Metal covers for car engines



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

THERE WAS A STRANGE RAID ON THE FORT LAST NIGHT!
WHAT HAPPENED?
SOMEBODY TOOK A COUPLE OF CANNONBALLS
7-8
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Bizarrotrip

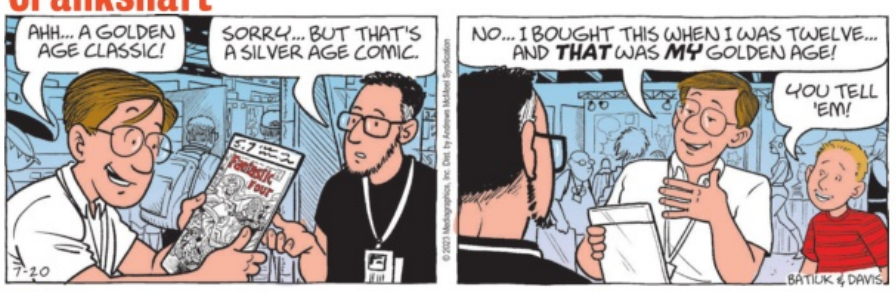
BIZARRO.COM
The next time your parents visit, tell them not to move the furniture around.
POLTERGUESTS
Wayno & Piraro 7-22-23
©2023 Bizarro Shmoe
Dist. by King Features

Diamond Lil

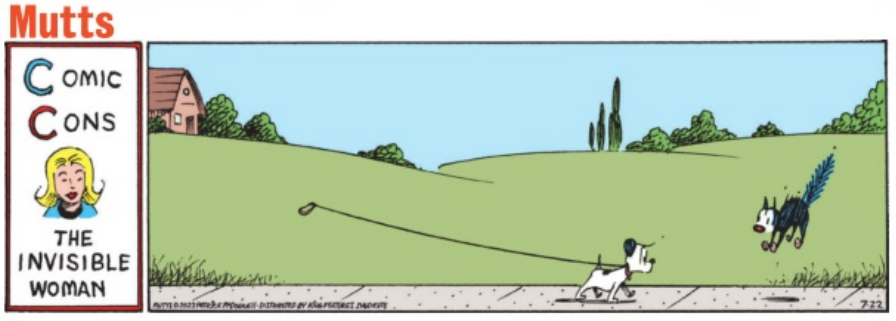
Hart of the city

YOU DON'T HAVE TO CUT YOUR HAIR!
I KNOW I DON'T. BUT I WANT TO.
I THINK MY VOICE WILL BE LOUDER IF I FEEL LOUDER.
YOU KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 ARDEMS MCNEEL
@OCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


AHH... A GOLDEN AGE CLASSIC!
SORRY... BUT THAT'S A SILVER AGE COMIC.
NO... I BOUGHT THIS WHEN I WAS TWELVE... AND THAT WAS MY GOLDEN AGE!
YOU TELL 'EM!
Fantastic Four
7-20
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may plan to renovate your house. You may buy some artefacts or creative stuff that will improve your social status. You may also invest in properties and other assets. You are likely to enjoy your romantic moments with your spouse, which will increase your emotional relationship with them. Singles may find a soul mate. Lovebirds may make some important decisions in terms of marriage.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel happy. Chronic health issues related to family members cannot be cured. Money that was stuck may be recovered now, which may increase liquidity in the business. People who are in a job may get some incentives that will improve their financial health. Job seekers may get a job with the help of any relative or friend's reference. Students may get some help from their friends in terms of academics.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today is important for domestic life. You may be busy with kids. You may hear some good news in terms of kids' education. You may buy some creative stuff for your home or office to maintain your social status. You are advised to use wisdom while buying any household stuff or jewellery.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be impatient, which may reflect on your way of working. There may be some silly mistakes, which may stop you from completing your task. Investments in fixed assets are advised to postpone for some days. But with the help of the elder's blessings, you may overcome the messy situation. In the evening, you may be focused on your work.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you are blessed by the moon; your destiny is likely to be with you. Today, you may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay off in terms of success. Your subordinates may help you. You are likely to go on short work-related trips. Some good news may come from your sibling. You may plan to renovate your house or office, where your creativity will be tested.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may increase your savings. You may be more creative today; you may use your creativity in your office or at home, which may enhance your social status. Lovebirds are likely to get some support from their family members and friends for marriage.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, messy situations are now under control. You may feel peace in your mind. You may be able to make a proper balance between expenditures and earnings, which may increase savings. You are advised to avoid too much travelling or overworking; it may affect your health. Students can start planning for their higher studies. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may face health issues, which may make you impatient. You are advised to control your short-tempered nature. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying worthless stuff, which may affect your savings. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics; otherwise, there might be a breakup.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may meet an influential person who may help you in the progress of your work. Your network will be strong with the help of that person. You may prepare yourself to implement new ideas in your work or business. You will plan to invest more capital in your business, which may give you financial gains in the near future. In terms of domestic life, you will be busy with family get-togethers and social events.

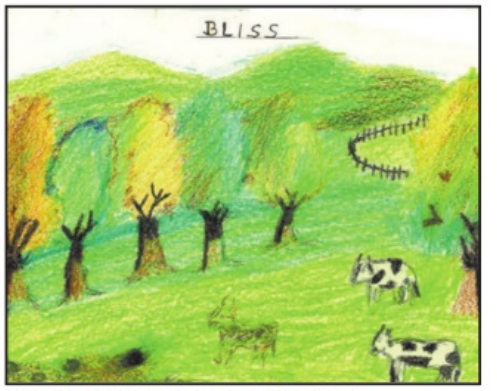
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, your mother's health may be good. You may enjoy work, and you may get rewards for your hard work. Your social respect may be increased now. Overworking your mind may make you tired, and due to your workload, you may not be able to reach a family event.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may be satisfied with work. You may plan for a short work-related trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your gurus may show you the right path, which may give you clarity regarding your goals.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel dull. It is advised to keep your mind cool. It is the golden rule for you to think twice before any act. You may travel to recover your money; otherwise, you may lose it. You are also advised to avoid going on an adventure tour. Students are advised to go for in-depth study to get success.

KIDZONE

Sahana Fathima, 13 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School



Advika V Reddy, 9 Years, Bishop Cotton Girls School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(2 * 18)^½) / 9^(½)=
(36^(1/2)) / 3 =
6 / 3 =
2

BULL'S EYE
doff, fond, hand, OFFHAND

STRIKE OUT

A	W	A	R	D	S		B	O	A	R	D	S		
S	X	H	A	D	I	T	A	U						
T	A	I	L	O	R	T	I	C	K	E	R			
	E	O	W	A	D	E	S		I		E			
R	A	M	A	H	E	R		E	N	D	S			
S	I	S	S	Y	A		E	I	G	H	T			
	D		C	U	D	D	L	E	D		O			
P	E	R	I	L		E		L	E	C	T	O		
E	R	E	I		A	N	D		R	U	I	N		
A		C	R	I	D	E	R		C		E			
H	O	O	D	E	D		B	U	C	K	E	D		
E	R		M	E	R	I	T		O		A			
N	O	D	D	E	D		T	H	E	O	R	Y		

FAST FIVE

A	P	P	R	O
T	R	E	E	N
T	U	R	P	S
I	N	D	I	E
C	O	U	N	T

QUOTE UNCODE
Living alone makes it harder to find someone to blame.

QUICK

A	G	H	A	S	T		O	O	D	E	S	T		
Y		O		R		L		I		N				
A	N	N	O		U	N	D	E	R	D	O	G		
T		E		N		E	T		U					
O		Y	A	N	K	I	N	G		E	T	E		
L		C		E			E		A		R			
L	O	O	T	E	D		U	N	I	S	O	N		
A	M		D		I			Y		E				
H	U	B		Y	A	P	P	I	N	G		S		
D		A		L		R		O		T				
H	I	N	D	E	R	M	I	N	G	L	E			

MENSA PUZZLE
55: each number indicates its position in the grid. 55 indicates row 5 column 5.

RIDDLER
Honduran, whose official language is Spanish; not Portuguese

SUDOKU

2	8	1	9	7	4	5	3	6
4	5	6	2	3	1	9	7	8
7	3	9	5	6	8	1	4	2
9	4	2	7	5	3	6	8	1
8	7	3	1	2	6	4	9	5
1	6	5	8	4	9	7	2	3
3	9	4	6	8	5	2	1	7
5	2	8	4	1	7	3	6	9
6	1	7	3	9	2	8	5	4

ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, On, Eon, Note, Stone, Tonnes, Bonnets.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 − 7 + 5 + 9 = 13
Medium
5 + 4 + 6 + 7 = 22
Hard
6 + 9 / 3 + 1 = 6

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Holiday with daughter— The 'Thor' star Chris Hemsworth has been spending time with his daughter India Rose in Iceland, People reported. Hemsworth posted a video on Insta of him and India Rose biking across the magnificent terrain

NOT HER PROBLEM

Saba talks about hate she receives for being in a relationship with Hrithik

Saba Azad, who is often in the news for her relationship with Hrithik Roshan, recently opened up about the hate she has been receiving on social media for being with the superstar. In an interview with IndiaToday.in, Saba said that it took her some time to come to a place where she treats everything as white noise because hatred is palpable. She admitted that it hits you and she sometimes feels like sh*t.

The actress also added that there are days when you wake up and you wonder 'what did I do to anyone?' Elaborating further, Saba added that at some point you realise you are not responsible for how people think and what they are projecting on you are what they are going through. It has nothing to do with you. According to her, once you realise that, peace prevails. In the same interview, Saba also went on to talk about how she deals with the paparazzi culture as she is a very private person in real life.

The actress said that she barely steps out and loves being at home. She revealed that stepping into the limelight was very daunting for her. According to her, it was scary and she felt exposed.

However, Saba added that she understands that she might not relate to paparazzi culture but that the guy who is taking a photo is doing his job. According to her, there is some space in the market which is curious about other people's lives. He is filling that space. —**ETimes**

NO PHOTOS PLEASE

Bollywood actress Anushka Sharma, whose pregnancy rumours are swirling around, refused to pose for the photographers recently thereby adding more fuel to the speculations around her pregnancy.

The rumours of her being pregnant with her second child started over the weekend.

So far, the 'Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi' actress has not responded to the rumours and has maintained a silence.

However, the recent video which emerged online shows Anushka in loose clothing, seated in the passenger seat of her car, and trying to avoid being photographed. It appears that the video in question was taken before the pregnancy claims surfaced. Anushka, who started her Bollywood career with the Aditya Chopra directorial 'Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi' opposite Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan, married Indian cricketer Virat Kohli in December 2017. —**IANS**

Evenings in Paris

Actor Sara Ali Khan, who is busy gearing up for her upcoming projects, took some time out to relax and explore Paris.

Taking to Instagram story, Sara treated fans with her new pictures from her Paris trip.

She can be seen enjoying her cup of coffee and posing in her uber-cool outfit. Sara wore an orange top that she paired with purple shorts and a printed shirt.

The actor accessorized her look with a pair of white sneakers and sunglasses.

Earlier, she shared a glimpse of her Pizza date.

Sharing the photo, she wrote, "Paris mein Pizza."

Meanwhile, she was recently seen with Vicky Kaushal in 'Zara Hatke Zara Bachke', which did decent business at the box office.

Sara will be seen in Anurag Basu's 'Metro...In Dino'. Billed as an anthology, the film also features Aditya Roy Kapur, Konkona Sen Sharma, Pankaj Tripathi, Fatima Sana Shaikh, Anupam Kher, Ali Fazal and Neena Gupta in lead roles.

'Metro...In Dino', a film that apparently draws its title from the famous song 'In Dino' from 'Life in a... Metro', will showcase bittersweet tales of human relationships based on contemporary times.

She also has 'Ae Watan Mere Watan' in her kitty. —**ANI**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

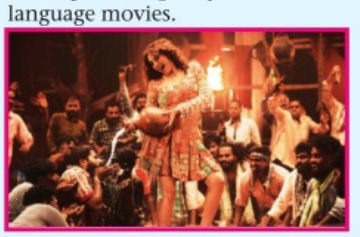
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Song of the year!

Ragini Dwivedi aka Tuppa Hudugi is elated after successfully participating in the shoot of a special song for Gajarama. The song – Sarayi Shanthamma – was filmed at Studio 9 Cinemas near Chikkagubbi for four days and wrapped up on Saturday.

"I am very happy to perform in this song. It has the potential to become song of the year. Many may think that it is an item song but it is part of the movie and certainly not included for the sake of adding glamour," said Ragini.

It is said director Sunil Kumar VA waited for four months for Ragini's time to be in this song. "There were discussions for the last four months with director Sunil Kumar. I was busy with the shoot of my other movies. I thank him for his patience," Ragini said, adding that she gives importance and preference to Kannada movies despite being busy with other language movies.



Missing case

The muhurat function of Amaravathi Police Station was held at Bande Mahankalamma Temple on Friday with gaiety and fanfare. Anjana Reddy and Geetha Anjana Reddy are bankrolling the movie under SAR Productions banner. Dr V Nagendra Prasad, a well-known lyricist and director, sounded the clap board while producers Anjana and Geetha switched the camera on for the muhurat shot.

Amaravathi Police Station is being helmed by Puneeth Arasikere. This is Arasikere's second film as a director.

"The movie is about how a village leader who tries to save farmers from middlemen goes missing and a police officer, who is assigned to investigate the case, also goes missing. Finally, the hero comes to the village searching for his friend (police inspector). How the hero solves the mystery is what the story is about," the director said.

If all is in place, the first schedule of the movie's shoot is planned from October 4 at Arasikere Police Station, Government Hospital and in and around Bengaluru.